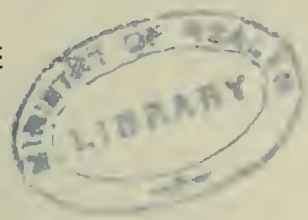


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Kington Urban District

HEREFORDSHIRE



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

State of the Public Health

For the Year 1945



Staff of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health	...	...	H. F. GREEN, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.
Acting Medical Officer of Health (Deputy County Medical Officer)	...		I. F. MACKENZIE, M.D. (Edin.), D.P.H., D.T.M. & H. (Private Tel., Weobley 59)
Clerk	...	...	B. J. SCANDRETT (On War Service from 1939)
Temporary Clerk	...	...	MISS D. M. J. BRAMFITT
Sanitary Inspector (Part-time)	...	...	R. P. MORRIS, A.R.S.I., Westfield, Kington. (Tel., Kington 31).

Public Health Office : 4, Church Street, Leominster (Tel., Leom. 95).

To the Chairman and Members of Kington Urban Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS,

I present herewith the Annual report for the year, 1945.

At time of writing, your Medical Officer of Health, Dr. H. F. GREEN, has happily returned from service with H.M. Forces and resumed duty.

The arrangements which were made on the eve of his departure in 1942 were designed to provide a means for emergency action in the event of outbreaks of disease ; and also to enable the really essential day to day duties of your health department to be carried on by medical officers experienced in public health, without reducing further the then serious shortage of medical manpower. Events have demonstrated that this scheme, which was conceived under difficult circumstances, was sound ; and though more responsibility fell on your Sanitary Inspector, he, being conscious that he had the support and backing of the considerable resources of the County Council Public Health Department and of the Medical Research Council's Laboratory service, shouldered it the more happily. Gratitude is due to him for his creditable response to the additional calls made on him during these last four years.

I. F. MACKENZIE,
Acting Medical Officer of Health.

November, 1946.

SECTION A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in Acres)	857
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1944) according to the Rate Books ...	541
Rateable Value	£8,868
Sum represented by a Penny rate	£34 16 2

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR :

LIVE BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 of estimated resident population)	17.7
STILL-BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 Live and Still births)	0.0
DEATH RATE (per 1,000 of estimated resident population)	13.1
INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE (per 1,000 live births)	114.2
DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES : No deaths in 1945 were attributable to puerperal or maternal causes.	

COMPARABLE DATA FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, 1945 :

Live Birth Rate	16.1
Death Rate	11.4
Infantile Mortality Rate	46.0

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Laboratory facilities continued to be available at the Public Health Laboratory, Hereford, which is at present under the administration of the Medical Research Council.

CLINICS.

There are none provided by the Authority.

Under a County Council Scheme there is one Clinic conducted within the Urban District. It is the Child Welfare Centre which is open at 2.30 p.m. on alternate Tuesdays.

The nearest Venereal Diseases Clinic is at the County Hospital, Hereford.

I am indebted to Mr. R. P. Morris, Sanitary Inspector to the Council, for the following statement (Sections C. to E.) furnished under Article 27 (Sub-Section 18) of the Sanitary Officers (outside London) Regulations.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER : SAMPLING.

The water supply is obtained from a Spring at the Crooked Well. It comes direct from rock and is conveyed by pipe to the Pumping Station and then pumped to Reservoirs at top of the Town. The supply has, throughout the year, been more than sufficient for the needs of the community.

Routine sampling has been carried out.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No new drains or sewers were constructed during the period under review.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The effluent from the sewage works (which is discharged into a brook flowing to the River Arrow) has improved still further during the year as a result of the alterations carried out on the filter beds. The electric sewage pump and the sludge draining bed are now in operation.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

This takes the form of incineration which is carried out in a building on the Sewage Disposal site. The ashes are cleared occasionally for filling in where road work is in progress.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

Inspection of the area is regularly made and defects noted. Owners of the property are approached and in most cases there is little difficulty in having the necessary work carried out.

Defective Drains repaired	...	...	...	18
Water Closets repaired	...	...	...	6
Drain traps renewed	...	...	...	2
Sinks repaired	...	...	...	2
New Sinks provided	...	...	...	8
Defective water taps repaired	...	...	...	22

Defects of roofs and buildings have received such attentions as was possible, it having to be borne in mind that extensive work is not possible on account of shortage of labour.

NOTICES ISSUED.

Informal	...	...	...	...	118
Statutory	...	...	...	...	Nil

FACTORIES.

The factories situated within the area have been inspected on 82 occasions. Only 3 minor defects were noted.

CAMPING SITES.

Camping does not exist on a large scale. No sites are registered.

BED BUGS.

Two cases were reported during the year. Disinfestation was carried out on the premises with satisfactory results.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	118
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	142
2. Number of dwelling houses found not to be, in all respects, reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	10

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

Proceedings under Public Health Acts	Nil
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	6
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

FOOD PREMISES.

Routine inspections are carried out. The general standard of cleanliness is good.

FOODS SURRENDERED.

The undermentioned foods were surrendered during the year.

Vegetables	248 lbs.	Luncheon meat	24 tins
Dried Fruit	30 lbs.	Condensed Milk	18 tins
Margarine	16 lbs.	Preserves	80 tins
Cheese	18 lbs.	Fish	43 tins
Bacon and ham	45 lbs.	Fresh and dried fish	$\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.
Mutton	Nil	Potatoes	6 cwt.

FOOD FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

All food found unfit for human or animal consumption is taken to the Destructor and burnt.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During 1945 there was an outbreak of Measles which affected some 27 persons who were, as is usual, mainly in the 1 to 9 age group. There was one instance of Diphtheria. No cases of Scarlet Fever occurred.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES, ACCORDING TO AGE.

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Age of Patient.</i>														
	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-10	10-15	15-20	20-30	30-40	Over 40	Unknown	Total
Measles	1	2	3	3	4	7	2	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	27
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS.

The state of Immunisation of the child population of the district at the end of 1945 is indicated in the table below.

<i>Under 5 years of age</i>		<i>Between 5 and 15 years of age.</i>	
<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage of group</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage of group</i>
157	99.9%	295	99.9%

TUBERCULOSIS.

At the end of 1945 the Tuberculosis Register contained the names of 11 males and 9 females who normally reside in the Council's area.

During the year 4 new cases were notified, 3 on account of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 1 because of the presence of the disease in parts of the body other than the lungs. During the same period one death of a person suffering from Tuberculosis occurred.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH (All ages).

<i>Disease.</i>						<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Cancer (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Diseases of Heart and Arteries			...	...	...	5	10	15
Congenital Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2

